

ARIZONA WIC ALERT

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Federal Fiscal Year 2009

October 1, 2008, began the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2009. All authorized WIC Vendors should have received their executed Vendor Contract with the following **changes**:

- ☒ The term Vendor Contract is for one federal fiscal year or a portion thereof. It went into effect on October 1, 2008, and will expire on September 30, 2009.
- ☒ The Arizona WIC Programs Food List, with an effective date of October 1, 2007, will continue to be used and remains the same with the following exceptions:
 - Any brand of peanut butter in 16 to 18 ounce sized containers is **NOW** WIC authorized.
 - Any brand of water packed tuna in 5 and 6 ounce cans are WIC authorized.
- ☒ Minimum Stock Requirements have been updated to include 13 ounce cans of concentrate infant formula. New minimum requirements for infant formula are:
 - Similac Advance with Iron 36 – 12.9 ounce cans powder
 and
 62 – 13 ounces cans concentrate
 - Similac Isomil Advance Soy with Iron 18 – 12.9 ounce cans powder
 and
 31 – 13 ounce cans concentrate
- ☒ Vendor Record Requirements – The Vendor shall at the request of the Department, sign an appropriate release form provided by the Arizona Department of Revenue. The release form will authorize the Arizona Department of Revenue to provide copies to the Department of any tax returns (including sales tax forms) filed by the Vendor during the five year period prior to the request.



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- ☑ Termination and Expiration of the Contract – The Department may terminate this contract and/or disqualify the Vendor for, but not limited to, the reasons stated below: (added) “h. Food sales revenue from WIC food instruments is identified as more than 50-percent of the total food sales upon completion of the new Vendor six-month assessment.”
- ☑ Contract Amendments - In the event that the Vendor does not sign an amendment to the Vendor Contract within thirty (30) days of receipt of the amendment, the Vendor shall be terminated from participation in the Arizona WIC Program.
- ☑ Six-month assessment of food sales - The Department will complete a six month assessment of all new Vendors to assure that the status initially assigned is appropriate. Upon completion of the assessment, if the Vendor’s food sales from WIC food instruments exceed 50 percent of their total food sales, the Vendor Contract will be terminated unless the outlet is necessary to ensure participant access.

Please review the Arizona WIC Program Vendor Manual, October 2008 for additional policies and procedures in handling WIC transactions.

As a reminder, check your Vendor ID Stamp prior to stamping any WIC food instrument. This is to ensure a clear legible stamp on the food instrument that the banking contractor can read. If necessary, clean the stamp and/or replace the inking mechanism. This will prevent rejection of food instruments for payment due to an unreadable Vendor ID Number.

The Arizona WIC Program is working toward the implementation of a new food package for next fiscal year. To better communicate with community partners and stakeholders, there is a food package webpage. This webpage will provide information on training, food package implementation resources and tools, newsletters, and updates to keep local vendors, clinic staff, clients and manufacturers informed during the implementation.

Please visit the Arizona WIC food package website at <http://www.azwic.gov/foodPack.htm> or contact the Arizona WIC Program directly at 1-866-229-6561 for updates on the new WIC food packages.

If you have any questions regarding this WIC Alert or need technical assistance, please contact any member of the Vendor Management team at 1-866-737-3935.